

## **PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA**

**MAY 22, 2007**

### **REGULAR MEETING**

The Gulf County Board of County Commissioners met this date in regular session with the following members present: Chairman Bill Williams, Vice Chairman Jerry Barnes, and Commissioners Carmen L. McLemore, Billy E. Traylor and Nathan Peters, Jr.

Others present were: County Attorney Timothy J. McFarland, Clerk Executive Administrator Towan Kopinsky, Deputy Clerk Tracy Whitehurst, Chief Administrator Don Butler, Deputy Administrator Lynn Lanier, Building Official Lee Collinsworth, Chamber of Commerce Director Sandra Chafin, E.D.C. Director Alan McNair, Emergency Management Director Marshall Nelson, G.I.S. Coordinator Scott Warner, Grant Writer Loretta Costin, Human Resources Director Denise Manuel, Planner David Richardson, Assistant Planner Sarah White, Road Department Superintendent Bobby Knee, Assistant Road Department Superintendent Chris Wood, S.H.I.P. Coordinator Dannie Bolden, Solid Waste Director Joe Danford and Sheriff's Office Major Joe Nugent.

Major Nugent called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., E.T.

Vice Chairman Barnes opened the meeting with prayer, and Major Nugent led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

### **GULF COUNTY MOMENT**

Beverly Mount-Douds appeared before the Board to present a copy of and discussed her new book "Gulf County - Images of America." She thanked the citizens of Gulf County, Pam Lawrence, Sandra Chaffin, Billy Howell, Tom Parker, Billy Howell, George Y. Core, and Dave Maddox. She also thanked the County and City Commissioners and invited everyone to attend her book-signing on June 2, 2007 at the Palm Tree Book Store in Port St. Joe and June 16, 2007 at the Wewahitchka Library. She stated that this is a pictorial history book of Gulf County's past.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Upon motion by Commissioner Traylor, second by Commissioner McLemore, and unanimous vote, the Board approved the following Consent Agenda items:

1. Minutes - May 4, 2007 - Special Meeting
  - May 8, 2007 - Workshop
  - May 8, 2007 - Public Hearing
  - May 8, 2007 - Regular Meeting
  - May 17, 2007 - Special Meeting (1)
  - May 17, 2007 - Special Meeting (2)

2. BCC Regular Meeting (Re-schedule June 12, 2007 regular meeting to Monday, June 11, 2007 at 6:00 p.m., E.T.)
3. Bid Award - #0607-24 - Gulf County E.M.S. (Power Cot & Evacuation Chair - Matrx Medical - \$9,412.00 - Low Bid)  
Bid Award - #0607-25 - Gulf County E.M.S. (Medical Equipment & Supplies - Bound Tree Medical - \$35,540.67 - Low & Complete Bid)  
Bid Award - #0607-26 - Solid Waste (5 Roll-Off Containers - E.B.C.O. - \$14,125.00)
4. Direct Purchase - Road Bond Paving Program (Alpha Railroad Industries Bid #0607-11 \* \$16,220.00 \* to be paid from Account #41441-63000)  
  
Direct Purchase - Honeyville Storm Shelter (Bid #0607-13 \* Lewis-Smith Supply Corp. \* \$26,475.00 / Climate Comfort Products \* \$10,142.07 \* to be paid from Account #27172-62000)

Direct Purchases - Policy (Policy regarding approval of Direct Purchases), as follows:

#### **POLICY FOR DIRECT PURCHASES**

- A. Subcontractor submits the Gulf County Purchase Requisition to Cathey Construction & Development indicating the vendor, quantity, description, and price of materials to be purchased.
- B. Cathey Construction & Development issues Purchase Requisition to Gulf County.
- C. Gulf County approves the Purchase Requisition to the requested vendor and returns the original to Cathey Construction and Development.
- D. Cathey Construction & Development sends the Gulf County Purchase Requisition to the vendor. Material is shipped to the job site and received by the subcontractor.
- E. Invoices are sent to the Subcontractor and approved for payment. The approved invoices are sent to Cathey Construction & Development.
- F. Cathey Construction & Development submits vendor invoices to Gulf County bi-monthly for payment, along with a Payment Voucher.

G. Gulf County issues checks to vendors.

(end of policy)

5. D.R.O.P. Program/Retirement Date - Road Department Superintendent Bobby Knee (June 1, 2007/May 31, 2012)
6. Grant Application - Small County Solid Waste Grant Award - EMSTARS (\$21,900.00)
7. Invoice - Auto Value - Public Works (#75-82497 \* \$55.95 / #75-82541 \* \$11.74 / #75-81007 \* 177.64 / #75-80584 \* \$209.99 / #75-75424 \* \$9.99 / #7572672 \* \$5.90 / #7572748 \* \$3.09 / #7570715 \* \$24.90 / #7569304 \* \$281.34 / #7569305 \* \$6.80 / #7569438 \* \$12.29 / #7568671 \* \$11.59 / #7568556 \* \$24.64 / #7567753 \* \$78.34 / #7567495 \* \$10.99 / #7566535 \* \$71.49 / #7565755 \* \$55.88 / #7565562 \* \$3.99 / #7565448 \* \$5.24 / #7565487 \* \$4.69 / #7565488 \* <\$4.69> / #7565546 \* \$387.12 / #7572299 \* \$173.83 / #7572330 \* <\$173.83> / <\$594.80> \* to be paid from Account #42834-46700 & #42834-52500)
  - Block USA - Honeyville Storm Shelter (Bid #0607-13 \* #S272698 \* \$650.24 / #S272699 \* \$1,491.95 \* to be paid from Account #71012-62100)
  - G.A.C. Contractors - Road Bond Paving Program (Bid #0607-11 / #4876 \* \$33,369.43 / #4877 \* \$12,438.82 / #4878 \* \$41,905.28 \* to be paid from Account #41441-63000)
  - M.R.D. Associates - Erosion Control Project (#830 \* \$21,375.00 \* to be paid from Account #28039-31000 / #832 \* \$2,025.30 / #833 \* \$113, 594.14 \* to be paid from Account #43137-31000)
  - Preble-Rish, Inc. - Road Bond Paving Project (Bid #0607-11 \* #65171 \* \$17,500.00 \* to be paid from Account #41441-31000)
  - St. Joe Hardware - Road Bond Paving Project (Bid #0607-11 \* #276390 \* 162.80 / #276401 \* \$23.50 \* to be paid from Account #41441-63000)
8. Mosquito Control Document Approval (Contract, Budget, Miscellaneous Documents, Dogfly Spraying Notification)

9. S.H.I.P. - Purchase Assistance (Derrick & Angela Lolley \* \$22,000.00 / Rebecca Pittman \* \$25,000.00)  
- Rehabilitation Assistance (Carla J. Bell \* \$19,500.00 / Mark & Shawna Hatcher \* \$20,000.00 / Carbert & Valene Williams \* \$20,000.00)

(end of consent agenda)

### **PUBLIC HEARINGS - P.D.R.B. RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Board then considered the following recommendations from the May 16, 2007 meeting of the Planning & Development Review Board:

#### **VARIANCE APPROVAL - JARDINA**

Pursuant to advertisement to hold a public hearing to consider a request for variance of the development regulations by Angelo and Susan Jardina (Parcel ID #03946-002R \* S5, T7S, R11W), County Attorney McFarland read the public hearing notice and called for public comment. There being no public comment, Commissioner McLemore motioned to approve this variance request, as recommended by the Planning & Development Review Board, and Commissioner Barnes seconded the motion. After discussion by Chairman Williams regarding this being an 8-foot encroachment on Americus Avenue (which will reduce the County's 20-foot easement to 12 feet), the motion passed unanimously.

#### **PRELIMINARY PLAT - CYPRESS WALK**

Pursuant to advertisement to hold a public hearing to consider tabling of a preliminary plat for Hal Keels (Parcel ID#01041-060R \* 30 acres in S33, T5S, R9W \* 26 units), County Attorney McFarland read the public hearing notice and called for public comment. Michael Hammond, of Preble-Rish, Inc., appeared before the Board to discuss that the P.D.R.B. recommended that the plat be tabled due to documentation not being received, but it is now complete and has been submitted. Upon inquiry, Planner Richardson stated that they have no objection to the plat being approved now that the documentation has been received, Commissioner Traylor motioned to approve the preliminary plat of Cypress Walk subdivision, subject to all Federal, State and local development regulations both stated and unstated. Commissioner McLemore seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

#### **FINAL PLAT APPROVAL - ST. JOHN'S VILLAGE SUBDIVISION**

Pursuant to advertisement to hold a public hearing to consider contingent final plat approval for St. John's Village Subdivision (Parcel ID#01369-000R \* 9.91 acres in S35, T3S, R10W \* 52 units), County Attorney McFarland read the public hearing notice and called for public comment. There being no public comment, Commissioner Traylor motioned to approve the final plat of St. John's Village Subdivision subject to all Federal, State and local development regulations both stated and unstated, and contingent upon road certification and submittal of the shape file. Commissioner McLemore seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

## **MAP CORRECTION APPROVAL - KING/PEACOCK**

Pursuant to advertisement to hold a public hearing to consider approval for a Map Correction for Chris King and Charles Peacock (Parcel ID#02607-000R \* S32, T7S, R10W), County Attorney McFarland read the public hearing notice and called for public comment. There being no public comment, Commissioner McLemore motioned to approve a Map Correction for Chris King and Charles Peacock. Commissioner Traylor seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

## **LARGE-SCALE MAP AMENDMENT - LAU**

Pursuant to advertisement to hold a public hearing to consider approval of a large-scale map amendment for David Lau (Parcel ID #01692-000R \* 19 acres in S14, T4S, R10W), County Attorney McFarland read the public hearing notice and called for public comment. There being no public comment, Commissioner McLemore motioned to approve and proceed with this large-scale map amendment changing 19 acres from agricultural to residential. Commissioner Barnes seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

## **VARIANCE REQUEST - JARDINA**

Planner Richardson discussed the variance request from Angelo and Susan Jardina (Parcel ID #03946-002R \* S5, T7S, R11W), stating that a fence can be required along the Americus Avenue side to prevent further encroachment. After discussion, Commissioner McLemore motioned to require placement of a fence on the Americus Avenue side of this property as part of the variance approval. Commissioner Traylor seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

## **YEARS OF SERVICE / ROAD DEPARTMENT SUPERINTENDENT**

Road Department Superintendent Knee reported that he has worked with the County for 33 years, and stated that the Board approved his plans to enter the Retirement D.R.O.P. program effective June 1<sup>st</sup> in the Consent Agenda. He further stated that this will make May 31, 2012 his official retirement date/end of employment.

## **STORM DEBRIS STORAGE**

Upon request by Solid Waste Director Danford, Commissioner McLemore motioned to submit a letter to The St. Joe Company requesting they allow the County to use a portion of their property as a “staging” area for storm debris (this will allow additional time for sorting of the debris before taking it to the landfill). Commissioner Traylor seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

## **LANDFILL FEES / POLICY**

Solid Waste Director Danford discussed the current policy regarding tipping fees for contractors at the landfill. After discussion by members of the Board, Solid Waste Director Danford

discussed that no fees are charged for individuals who are performing homesite clearing. After further discussion, Commissioner McLemore motioned that all businesses be required to pay the landfill tipping fees unless the materials being dumped are definitely not associated with their business.

### **LANDFILL WORKSHOP**

Solid Waste Director Danford discussed the rising costs associated with the landfills, and requested that the Board hold a workshop prior to budget sessions so he can discuss the financial needs for the landfill. After discussion, the Board requested that Commissioner Peters spearhead this issue.

### **COMPREHENSIVE PLANS / LANDFILLS**

Planner Richardson discussed that landfills are concurrence items within the Comprehensive Plan and Future Planning, and the County should try to obtain the 100 acres from The St. Joe Company as agreed to in the Windmark D.R.I. Development Order.

### **BURN BAN**

Planner Richardson reported that the Chipola District fire rating is currently at Level 5 (as high as they go), and Gulf County's drought index is in the 500's.

### **COMPREHENSIVE PLAN / E.A.R.**

Planner Richardson presented the draft Comp. Plan Evaluation and Appraisal Report (E.A.R.) for review by the Board members, stating it will need to be submitted as soon as possible. Upon discussion by Chairman Williams regarding holding a meeting in North Gulf County regarding the new wetlands/waterways setback requirements and D.C.A. litigation issues, the Board agreed for Commissioner Traylor to schedule a meeting in Wewahitchka to discuss this matter. County Attorney McFarland stated that the Board should hold the meeting in Wewahitchka prior to holding another meeting on this issue with the D.C.A. representatives.

### **REGULAR MEETING RE-SCHEDULED**

Chairman Williams discussed that the regular meeting of the Board on June 12<sup>th</sup> has been re-scheduled to Monday, June 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m., E.T.

### **FIRE TRUCK / ROAD DEPARTMENT**

Road Department Superintendent Knee discussed that there is a pumper truck located at the Road Department, and inquired if the Road Department employees who are part of fire departments are allowed to take the truck and participate in fighting fires during the normal work week. Upon motion by Commissioner McLemore, second by Commissioner Barnes, and unanimous vote, the Board approved this request.

### **BEACH RENOURISHMENT PROJECT / INVOICE**

Deputy Administrator Lanier presented M.R.D. & Associates invoice #799, in the amount of \$16,557.45, for work performed on permitting for the St. Joseph Peninsula Re-nourishment Project (to be paid from Account #43137-31000). Upon motion by Commissioner Barnes, second by Commissioner McLemore, and unanimous vote, the Board approved payment of this invoice.

### **DIRECT PURCHASE PAYMENT / COURTHOUSE ROOF PROJECT**

Deputy Administrator Lanier presented Emerald Coast Building Materials invoice #10645 & #10693, in the total amount of \$4,594.02, as payment of a direct purchase for stucco for the Courthouse Roof Project (Bid #0607-07). Upon motion by Commissioner McLemore, second by Commissioner Peters, and unanimous vote, the Board approved this payment.

### **HURRICANE PLANNING / BUSINESSES**

Emergency Management Director Nelson reported that the hurricane tabletop exercise for businesses to be held on Thursday has been re-scheduled to Tuesday, May 29<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., E.T.

### **BURN BAN RESOLUTION**

County Attorney McFarland read a proposed resolution regarding the current burn ban in Gulf County. Upon motion by Commissioner Peters, second by Commissioner McLemore, and unanimous vote, the Board adopted the following resolution.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 2007-12 FIRE EMERGENCY**

**WHEREAS**, the extreme drought has created a dangerous condition in Gulf County, Florida with the weather conducive to fire activity; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governor of the State of Florida has issued Executive Order No. 07\_86, State of Emergency, due to the ongoing drought and danger of wildfires; and

**WHEREAS**, the Florida Agriculture and Consumer Services Commissioner Charles H. Bronson announced that due to the severe wildfire threat, he has instructed the Division of Forestry to stop the burning of all yard waste by homeowners; and

**WHEREAS**, dry weather conditions are forecasted for the foreseeable future, and the danger of wildfires will increase over time; and

**WHEREAS**, precautions must be taken by all citizens if we are to avoid the loss of life, the loss of homes, and the loss of property because of the high risk of fire; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA AS FOLLOWS:**

Persons are prohibited in engaging all open burning. Caution should be used when grilling, smoking or any other use of a combustible source.

**PLEASE NOTE:** It is unlawful to throw from any vehicle a lighted match, cigarette, cigar, etc.

**YOUR COOPERATION AND CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR THE SAFETY OF OUR COMMUNITY ARE GREATLY APPRECIATED**

**ORDERED** this 22nd day of May , 2007.

(end of Resolution)

#### **PERMIT APPLICATION - ACCESS ROAD / KNOWLES AVENUE**

Chief Administrator Butler requested permission to apply for the necessary permits to construct an access road across the drainage ditch between Knowles Avenue and the County complex property, stating the costs should not exceed \$11,000.00. Upon motion by Commissioner McLemore, second by Commissioner Traylor, and unanimous vote, the Board approved this request.

#### **REFUND / BUILDING PERMIT FEES**

Chief Administrator Butler discussed a request from Chauncey Belser, of Integras Therapy & Wellness Centers, Inc., for a refund of building permit fees on a project that was not constructed. He stated that \$24,300.64 was paid for the permits, but the Plans Inspection was performed by the Building Department which would leave a cost of \$15,848.00. After discussion by members of the Board, County Attorney McFarland and Building Official Collinsworth, Commissioner Traylor motioned to refund the building permit fees, less the Plans Inspection costs (\$15,848.00). Commissioner McLemore seconded the motion, and it passed 4-0, with Chairman Williams abstaining due to business involvement with Integras.

#### **ELEVATORS - PORT ST. JOE/WEWAHITCHKA COURTHOUSES**

Chief Administrator Butler discussed an A.D.A. complaint that was filed regarding the elevator in the Courthouse being inoperable. He stated that fire detectors are required to be installed before the inspections can be completed, and he has received estimates of \$4,000.00 for the Wewahitchka Courthouse and \$10,000.00 for the Port St. Joe Courthouse. After discussion, Commissioner McLemore motioned to take the necessary action to repair the elevators on an emergency basis (accept the lowest responsive quote). Commissioner Barnes seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

#### **EMSTARS GRANT / GULF COUNTY E.M.S.**

Chief Administrator Butler reported that Gulf County E.M.S. was awarded an EMSTARS Grant 2007 from H.R.S., in the amount of \$21,900.00, and has requested permission to purchase A.R.T. (Automated Run Tracking) System computer hardware and software from E.M.S.



Consultants (will be a sole-source purchase). Upon motion by Commissioner Traylor, second by Commissioner McLemore, and unanimous vote, the Board approved this request.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER #2007-00-05 / COURTHOUSE SECURITY**

Chief Administrator Butler reported on Administrative Order #2007-00-05 issued by Chief Judge Williams Wright regarding Courthouse Security. He stated that deputies must be placed at the front and back doors and everyone must be checked with a metal detector. He discussed that a metal detector, card-swipe system, etc. will cost approximately \$10,000.00. After discussion regarding obtaining quotes to bring back to the Board, County Attorney McFarland discussed that this is an Order from the Judge and the Board should proceed with the detectors (can be hand-held machines) and the card-swipe system immediately. Upon motion by Commissioner McLemore, second by Commissioner Barnes, and unanimous vote, the Board agreed to proceed with the metal detectors and card-swipe system.

### **S.C.T.A.S. / FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES**

Chief Administrator Butler requested permission to pay county consultant Tony Arrant for his Technical Assistance services on the Comp Plan and E.A.R. projects by June 1<sup>st</sup> (if he is not paid by F.A.C.), stating the County will be reimbursed for this expense. Upon motion by Commissioner McLemore, second by Commissioner Peters, and unanimous vote, the Board approved this request.

### **FLORIDA COUNTIES FOUNDATION**

Chief Administrator Butler reported that he has been re-appointed to serve on the Florida Counties Foundation Board of Directors committee for another 2-year term. The Board approved.

### **DEPUTIES / COURTHOUSE SECURITY**

Major Nugent discussed the Courthouse Security issue, stating that as many as 5 deputies could be needed on various days because there must be a deputy with each Judge and Special Master, at both entrance doors, and in the Courtroom. After further discussion, the Board requested that Chief Administrator Butler work with Major Nugent on this issue.

### **FEDERAL IMMIGRATION BILL / RESOLUTION**

Commissioner Traylor discussed his opposition to the proposed Federal Immigration Bill (Senate Bill 1348) which would give temporary work permits to illegal immigrants, and motioned for the Board to adopt a resolution opposing the bill (resolution to be sent to Congressman Boyd, Senator Nelson, Senator Martinez, and all surrounding Counties). County Attorney McFarland read a proposed resolution opposing this bill. Commissioner McLemore seconded the motion, and the Board unanimously adopted the following resolution.

### **RESOLUTION NO. 2007-13**

**WHEREAS**, the Gulf County Board of County Commissioners is charged pursuant to Florida Statute 125.01 with protecting the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Gulf County, Florida and,

**WHEREAS**, legislation is presently under consideration by the U.S. Senate, a proposed bill known as the Comprehensive Immigration Reform Act of 2007, and

**WHEREAS**, passage into law of the proposed Senate Bill 1348 would have long term negative effects upon the economic and social well beings of the citizens of the United States and of Gulf County, Florida and,

**WHEREAS**, Senate Bill 1348 would promote millions of immigrants into the United States over the coming years which would, otherwise not now legally qualify to enter or remain in the United States and,

**WHEREAS**, the provisions of the bill allowing current illegal aliens presently in the U.S. to remain here legally upon the completion of certain basic conditions, would further increase certain legal immigration beyond the economic capacities of this country, state and county and,

**WHEREAS**, Senate Bill 1348 attempts to address the problem of illegal immigration by seeking to create a viable transformation of currently existing illegal aliens into legal U.S. citizens is a poor attempt to contend with the estimated twelve million undocumented immigrants currently living in the United States and,

**WHEREAS**, the Board of County Commissioners of Gulf County, Florida opposes passage of the current Senate Bill 1348 known as the Comprehensive Immigration Reform Act of 2007.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:**

The Gulf County Board of County Commissioners hereby adopts this Resolution in opposition to the current Senate Bill 1348 known as the Comprehensive Immigration Reform Act of 2007. The Gulf County Board of County Commissioners would encourage and support adjoining local communities to join in opposition to the proposed Senate Bill 1348 and to let such voice be heard with your U.S. delegation.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA**

**DULY** adopted this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of May, 2007.

(end of Resolution)

**TERM LIMITS / TOURIST DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Commissioner Peters discussed a meeting held with residents of the Cape San Blas area, and their concerns regarding the term limits for T.D.C. members. The Board agreed for

Commissioner Peters to review this matter and bring a recommendation back to the Board.

### **PERMIT FEES - SLUDGE DUMPING**

Upon inquiry by Commissioner McLemore, County Attorney McFarland reported that he is in the process of drafting a proposed ordinance regarding fees for dumping sludge in Gulf County, and that he is working with the University of Florida on this issue.

### **LEGISLATION / FISHING LIMITATIONS**

Commissioner Barnes discussed proposed legislation that will place an additional hardship on the charter fishing industry, and stated that several boat captains are here to discuss this issue. Captain Chuck Guilford appeared before the Board to discuss the proposed legislation based on “data” received from Dr. Hogarth, and requested that the Board submit letters to the Representatives opposing the change in legislation. Captain Ron Miller presented draft letters to the Board for their review. After discussion, Commissioner Traylor motioned to submit letters signed by all Board members to Congressman Boyd, Senator Nelson, and Senator Martinez opposing this change in fishing regulations. Commissioner Barnes seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Captain Guilford thanked the Board on behalf of all fishing boat captains in Gulf and surrounding counties.

### **DOG FLY COMPLAINTS**

Commissioner Barnes discussed complaints he has received regarding dog flies, stating that the dog-fly spraying airplane is currently down for maintenance. He further stated that the cooler weather (wind from the North) is bringing them in sooner this year.

### **BEACON HILL PARK**

Chairman Williams discussed a request to re-name Beacon Hill Park due to its recent hosting of The Wall That Heals. Virginia Seefeldt appeared before the Board to discuss The Wall being in Gulf County, stating that they would like to see the name of Beacon Hill Park changed to Beacon Hill Veterans’ Memorial Park. After discussion regarding obtaining permission from the U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management, Commissioner McLemore motioned to proceed with having the park re-named. Commissioner Peters seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

### **WASTEWATER / SEWER SYSTEM - HIGHLAND VIEW**

Chairman Williams discussed the proposed agreement presented by the City of Port St. Joe to the residents of Highland View, stating it is very difficult to comprehend and is totally different from the ones given to the residents of the City for the current wastewater / sewer system. He then requested support from the Board to utilize a portion of the \$2 million of the County’s legislative funding to pay the up-front tap fees for the residents (the residents would then repay the County). Carolyn Hollman appeared before the Board to discuss the proposed agreement

that she received from the City. Upon discussion by members of the Board, County Attorney McFarland discussed repayment of the funds, modification of the agreement, and regulations of the grant funds received for the sewer system. After further discussion, Commissioner Traylor motioned to pre-pay these fees, contingent upon approval for this type of expenditure of the fund allocation for the sewer system. Commissioner McLemore seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Captain Bill Holden also appeared before the Board to discuss the proposed agreement with the City. Chairman Williams discussed the possibility of paying the tap fees, but awaiting execution of the agreements to see if they can be modified by the City. Rich Brenner appeared before the Board to discuss pre-payment of the tap fees and upon his inquiry, Chairman Williams stated the fee would be \$500.00 for each dwelling included in the 1<sup>st</sup> Phase of the sewer system in Highland View.

### **AMERICUS AVENUE DITCH**

Chairman Williams reported that the Americus Avenue Ditch project will begin soon, and work has begun on preparing surrounding areas to improve drainage into the Americus Avenue ditch. He reported that the sand removed from Beacon Hill Park (to construct a lake) will be utilized on the Americus Avenue ditch project.

### **COMMUNITY LAND TRUST GRANT / BUTLER BAY ROAD**

Chairman Williams thanked Grant Writer Costin for hand-delivering the grant application for the Butler Bay Road project, stating the County is seeking \$6 million to purchase property for a park in that area.

### **WHITE CITY / BOATING IMPROVEMENT GRANT**

Chairman Williams discussed the application to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission for Boating Improvement Grant (B.I.P.) funds for White City, stating the Board will find out in the fall if the grant is awarded.

### **ADVERTISE FOR BIDS / FIRE DEPARTMENT BUILDINGS**

Chairman Williams discussed the need for buildings for the White City and Highland View fire departments, and requested permission to advertise to receive sealed bids for design/build of these buildings. Upon motion by Commissioner Traylor, second by Commissioner Barnes, and unanimous vote, the Board approved this request.

### **JUNKED AMBULANCE / SEARCH & RESCUE BUILDING**

Chairman Williams discussed an old ambulance being stored in the Search & Rescue building in White City, and requested that Road Department Superintendent Knee get with Maintenance Superintendent Mork to haul it away.

### **JUNIOR LEADERSHIP PROGRAM**

Chairman Williams discussed the Junior Leadership Program to be initiated and administered by Grant Writer Costin (\$10,000.00 set aside by the Board), stating the University of Florida has agreed to assist the County with a Natural Resource and Leadership Curriculum. He requested that Grant Writer Costin follow up with them, and bring a report back to the Board.

### **BEACH MANAGEMENT PROTOCOL**

Chairman Williams discussed the regulations for the Aquatic Preserve, and requested that everyone review the Management Plan.

### **SACRED HEART HOSPITAL**

Chairman Williams reported that the ground-breaking ceremony for Sacred Heart Hospital is scheduled for June 21<sup>st</sup> at 4:00 p.m., E.T., and he stated that he talked to Peter Heckathorn regarding progress of the construction.

### **SPECIAL PROJECTS PAYMENTS**

Upon motion by Commissioner McLemore, second by Commissioner Traylor, and unanimous vote, the Board agreed to donate \$100.00 from each district to the County Domestic Violence Program.

### **PROPOSED ORDINANCE / BUILDING DEPARTMENT**

Stan Siprell appeared before the Board to present a draft ordinance and letters from the Construction Licensing Board and HomeBuilders Association regarding unlicensed contractors and regulation of the building industry in Gulf County. County Attorney McFarland presented a proposed ordinance he drafted regarding regulation through a Special Contractor License, and he discussed Florida Statutes regulating undocumented immigrants. Commissioners McLemore and Peters discussed that many Gulf County residents perform odd jobs to make a living, and this will create additional costs for them. After discussion by Building Official Collinsworth about regulations through the Florida Statutes, Mr. Siprell stated that the ordinance could be adopted to affect only individuals who have more than 1 employee. Commissioner Barnes discussed the ordinance prepared by County Attorney McFarland, and motioned to begin the ordinance process on this ordinance. The motion died for lack of a second. Tim Stein discussed that many of the contractors utilize workers from a temporary employment service ("day laborers"), and the service pays the worker's compensation (but the Building Department cannot inquire about Worker's Comp on job sites). Tommy Watson appeared before the Board to discuss that Florida Statutes regulate licensed contractors and the ordinance is needed to regulate unlicensed workers. Rich Brenner appeared before the Board and discussed the possibility of handling this issue through occupational licensing to protect the residents from unskilled laborers.

There being no further business and upon motion by Commissioner McLemore, the meeting did then adjourn at 7:49 p.m., E.T.

**BILL WILLIAMS**  
**CHAIRMAN**

**ATTEST:**

**REBECCA L. NORRIS**  
**CLERK**